Case 15-28416 Doc 58 Filed 05/24/16 Entered 05/24/16 12:12:46 Desc Main Document Page 1 of 16

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

In re: Chapter 7

Traci Alexis Miller & Maurice
Western,

Bankruptcy No. 15-28416

Honorable Jacqueline P. Cox

October 14, 2015 through May 23, 2016.

Debtors.

COVER SHEET FOR FIRST AND FINAL FEE APPLICATION OF FACTORLAW FOR COMPENSATION

Name of Applicant: <u>Law Offices of William J. Factor, Ltd.</u>

Authorized to Provide <u>Karen R. Goodman, Chapter 7 Trustee for the</u>

Professional Services to: estate of Traci Alexis Miller & Maurice

Western

Period for Which

Compensation is Sought:

Amount of Fees Sought: \$ 14,783.13

Amount of Expense \$ 98.44

Reimbursement Sought:

This is a: <u>First and Final Application</u>

The aggregate amount of fees and expenses *paid* to the Applicant to date for services rendered and expenses incurred herein is: \$ 0.00

Case 15-28416 Doc 58 Filed 05/24/16 Entered 05/24/16 12:12:46 Desc Main Document Page 2 of 16

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

In re:

Chapter 7

Traci Alexis Miller & Maurice Western,

Bankruptcy No. 15-28416

Debtors.

Honorable Jacqueline P. Cox

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Please take notice that on June 16, 2016, at 9:30 A.M. or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, the undersigned attorneys shall appear before the Honorable Jacqueline P Cox, United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, in Courtroom 680 of the Everett McKinley Dirksen United States Courthouse, 219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, or any other judge sitting in her place and stead, and shall then and there present the attached FactorLaw's First and Final Application for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses, a copy of which is attached hereto and herewith served upon you. You may appear if you so choose.

Dated: May 24, 2016

THE LAW OFFICES OF WILLIAM J. FACTOR, LTD.

By: <u>/s/ Z. James Liu</u>
One of its Attorneys

William J. Factor (6205675) Sara E. Lorber (6229740) Z. James Liu (6313367)

FACTORLAW

105 W. Madison, Suite 1500

Chicago, IL 60602

Tel: (312) 373-7227 Fax: (847) 574-8233

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Z. James Liu, an attorney, hereby certify that on May 24, 2016, pursuant to Section II.B.4 of the Administrative Procedures for the Case Management/Electronic Case Filing System and Fed.R.Civ.P. 5(a), I caused a copy of the foregoing *Notice of Application* and the accompanying *Application* to be served electronically through the Court's Electronic Notice for Registrants on all persons identified as Registrants on the below Service List and by U.S. Mail on all other persons identified on the Service List.

<u>/s/ Z. James Liu</u>

SERVICE LIST

Registrants

(Service via ECF)

William J. Factor wfactor@wfactorlaw.com, wfactorlaw@gmail.com,

bharlow@wfactorlaw.com, wfactor@ecf.inforuptcy.com,

wfactormyecfmail@gmail.com

Patrick S. Layng USTPRegion11.ES.ECF@usdoj.gov

Karen R. Goodman kgoodman@taftlaw.com, il24@ecfcbis.com,

sfdocket@shefskylaw.com, nbeagan@taftlaw.com

Zhijun James Liu jliu@wfactorlaw.com, bharlow@wfactorlaw.com,

jliu@ecf.inforuptcy.com, nbouchard@wfactorlaw.com

Anne I. Shaw ashaw@shawattorneys.com,

rtanguay@shawattorneys.com, cshaw@shawattorneys.com, jdegrado@shawattorneys.com, sbutler@shawattorneys.com

Non-Registrants

(Service via U.S. Mail)

Maurice Western & Traci Alexis Miller

712 Harrison St. Gary, IN 46402

See attached mailing matrix.

Entered 05/24/16 12:12 46 Desc Main Label Matrix for local noticing Doc 58 U.S. Hankrupter Court Page 4 of 16 Document Eastern Division 444 STRIPLING CHAPEL ROAD Case 15-28416 219 S Dearborn SUITE 300 Northern District of Illinois CAROLLTON, GA 30117-7796 7th Floor Chicago Chicago, IL 60604-1702 Thu Mar 31 09:01:08 CDT 2016 1st Franklin Financial 2702 West Warren #4 AARONS LEASING AND RENTS 444 Stripling Chapel Road Chicago, IL 60612-2037 309 EAST PACES FERRY RD NE Suite 300 ATLANTA, GA 30305-2377 Carrollton, GA 30117-7796 AARONS RENT AND LEASING AMCOL Columbia (p) ANN ARBOR CREDIT BUREAU INC 309 EAST PACES FERRY RD NE POB 21625 PO BOX 7820 Columbia, SC 29221-1625 ANN ARBOR MI 48107-7820 ATLANTA, GA 30305-2377 ARS INC ATT ATT Bankruptcy Center P.O. BOX 321472 ACCOUNT RECEIVABLE POB 769 FLOWOOD, MS 39232-1472 208 S AKARD ST Arlington, TX 76004-0769 DALLAS TX 75202-4295 ATT PHONE SERVICE AUTO OWNERS INSURANCE COMPANY AUTO OWNERS INSURANCE COMPANY BANKRUPTCY CENTER James P Cavanaugh (Retained) LATITUDE SUBROGATION SERVICES Gaston, Cavanaugh & Giesel PO BOX 769 1760 S TELEGRAPH ROAD STE 104 ARLINGTON, TX 76004-0769 7168 Graham Rd BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48302-0181 Ste 160 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46250-2677 CARROLL EMC (CARROLLTON, GEORGIA) Arrons Leasing and Rents Attn: N.A. Winfrey 309 E Paces Ferry Rd NE 401 Boradway SUite 101a 155 NORTH HIGHWAY 113 Atlanta, GA 30305-2377 Gary, IN 46402-1236 CARROLLTON, GA 30117-7501 CARROLL FINANCE CARROLLTON GEORGIA WATER UTILITY CHASE BANK 1004 BANKHEAD HIGHWAY B-27 315 BRADLEY STREET 3800 BROADWAY CARROLLTON, GA 30117-1849 CARROLLTON, GA 30117-3219 GARY, IN 46408 CHASE BANK COLUMBIA HOUSE COLUMBIA HOUSE PO BOX 183164 1400 NORTH FRUITRIDGE AVENUE COLUMBUS, OH 43218-3164 TERRE HAUTE, IN 47804-1776 COMCAST COMED COMCAST CABLE, INC 650 CENTERTON ROAD PO BOX 805379 650 CENTERTON RD CHICAGO, IL 60680-4179 MOORESTOWN, NJ 08057-3985 MOORESTOWN, NJ 08057-3915

COMED (COMMONWEALTH EDISON)
PO BOX 805379
CHICAGO, IL 60680-4179

COMPLETE CREDIT SOULTION 2921 BROWN TRAIL #100 BEDFORD, TX 76021-4174 CREDIT CEENTRAL 704 BANKHEAD HIGHWAY CARROLLTON, GA 30117-1962

Case 15-28416 Carroll EMC 155 North Highway 113 Carrollton, GA 30117-7501

Doc 58 carroll finance Entered 05/24/16 12:12:46 Desc Main Water 1004 Bankhead Highway Carrollton, GA 30117-1849

Page 5 of 16

Department 315 Bradley Street Carrollton, GA 30117-3219

Chase Bankruptcy Dept POB 15298 Wilmington, DE 19850-5298 City of Hobart Indiana 414 Main Street Hobart, IN 46342-4444

Columbia House 1400 Nort Fruitridge Ave Terre Haute, In 47804-1776

Com Ed DBA Commonwealth Edison 3 Lincoln Center Attn: Bkcy Group Claims Department Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181-4204

Commonwealth Edison Co 3 Lincoln Center Attn: Bankruptcy Section Oak Brook Terrace IL 60181-4204 Complete Credit Solutions 2921 Brown Trail #100 Bedford, TX 76021-4174

Credit Central 704 Bankhead Highway Carrollton, GA 30117-1962 DISNEY MOVIE CLUB PO BOX 738 NEENAH, WI 54957-0738 DRIVETIME P.O BOX 29018, PHOENIX, AZ 85038-9018

DRIVETIME CREDIT PO BOX 53087 PHOENIX, AZ 85072-3087 Disney Movie Club POB 758 Neenah, WI 54957-0758 FIRST PREMIER BANK CRD TCF BANK PO BOX 5524 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57117-5524

FIRST PREMIER CREDIT CARD PO BOX 5524 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57117-5524 GARY CITY COURT-401 BORADWAY, GARY, IN 46402 GARY INDIANA SANITATION DEPARTMENT ATTN URSULA 839 BROADWAY GARY, IN 46402-2414

GARY INDIANA SERVICES 200 EAST 5TH AVENUE GARY, IN 46402-1309

Gary City Court 555 Polk Street Gary, IN 46402-1742 Gary City Court 555 Polk Street Gary, IN 46402-1742 Attn: Kim

HIGHLIGHTS MAGAZINE 803 CHURCH STREET HONESDALE, PA 18431-1877 HOLYCROSS HOSPITAL 2701 WEST 68TH ST CHICAGO, IL 60629-1882 ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AUTHORITY 2700 OGDEN AVENUE DOWNERS GROVE, IL 60515-1703

INDIANA AMERICAN WATER 1025 LAUREL OAK ROAD VOORHEES, NJ 08043-3506 INDIANA AMERICAN WATER 555 EAST COUNTYLINE ROAD GREENWOOD, IN 46143-1064

INSTALOAN 1670 NORTH US HIGHWAY 27 CARROLLTON, GA 30117

Indiana AMerican Water 1025 Oak Laurel Road Voorhees, NJ 08043-3506

Instaloan 1670N US Highway 27 Carrollton, GA 30117 J.D. BYRIDER 12802 HAMILTON CROSSING BLVD CARMEL, IN 46032-5424

Case 15-28416 J.D. Byrider 12802 Hamilton Crossing Blvd Caremel, IN 46032-5424

Doc 58 Filed 05/24/16
PO BOX 929 Pinent PORTAGE, IN 46368

Entered 05/24/16 12:12:46 song McVer Main Page 6 of 16

2702 WEST WARREN #4 CHICAGO, IL 60612-2037

(p) JEFFERSON CAPITAL SYSTEMS LLC PO BOX 7999 SAINT CLOUD MN 56302-7999

Jesseme Bysong Mcvey POB 1297 Portgage, In 46368

KATHLEEN STENSON 2471 SAINT ANDEWS DRIVER OLYMPIA FIELD, IL 60461-1166

Kathleen Stenson 2471 Saint Andrew Driver Olympia Fields, IL 60461-1166

LAKE COUNTY INDIANA SUPERIOR COURT 2293 MAIN STREET, CROWN POINT, IN 46307-1854 LAKE STATION INDIANA MUNICIPAL COURT 1969 CENTRAL AVE LAKE STATION, IN 46405-2059

Lake Station City Court 1969 Central Ave Lake Station, IN 46405-2399

Lake Superior Court #7 2293 Main Street Crown Point, IN 46307-1854 Attn: Linda

MARION COUNTY INDIANA 200 E WASHINGTON ST SUITE W122 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204-3335

MIDLAND FUNDING LLC 227 W TRADE ST. STE 1610 CHARLOTTE, NC 28202-1676 877-434-3713

MIDLAND FUNDING LLC 2365 NORTHSIDE 3RD FLOOR SAN DIEGO, CA 92108-2709 Midland Credit Management 8875 Aero Drive Suite 200 San Diego, CA 92123-2255

Midland Funding LLC 227 West Trade Streette 1610 Charlotte, NC 28202-1676

NIPSCO 801 E 86TH AVE MERRILLVILLE, TN 46410-6272 Nipsco 801 East 86th Ave Merrillville, IN 46410-6272

OFFICE OF PRIVACY -LEGAL DEPARTMENT PO BOX 4600 RESTON, VA 20195-1416

ONLINE COLLECTIONS P.O. BOX 1489 WINTERVILLE, NC 28590-1489 Office of Privacy POB 4600 Reston, VA 20195-1416

PATRICIA A LLOYD, M.D. 340 BLVD NE ATLANTA GA 30312-1285

PEOPLES ENERGY ATTN CUSTOMER SERVICE 200 E RANDOLPH CHICAGO, IL 60601-6302 PEOPLES GAS 200 E RANDOLPH CHICAGO, IL 60601-6302

PROPERTY LIQUIDATOR/TIM LOVELESS 1628 CAMELLIA DRIVE MUNSTER, IN 46321-3947

PROPERTY LIQUIDATOR/TIM LOVELESS 3715 WASHINGTON GARY, IN 46408-2204

Porania LLC P. O. Box 11405 Memphis TN 38111-0405

Porania LLC c/o Biltmore Asset Management 24500 Center Ridge Rd Ste 472 Westlake, OH 44145-5605

Premier Bankcard, Llc c o Jefferson Capital Systems LLC Po Box 7999 Saint Cloud Mn 56302-7999 Orig By: Premier Bankcard Mc

Property Liquidators 3715 Washington Gary, In 46408-2204

Property Liquidators, Inc. 15-28416 Doc 58 c/o Genetos Retson & Yoon LLP 1000 E. 80th Place Suite 555 North Tower Merrillville, IN 46410-5673

1628 Camellia Drive Muster, In 46321-3947

Filed 05/24/16 Entered 05/24/16 12:12:46 Property Liquidators/Time Entered 05/24/16 12:12:46 Loveless Page 7 of 16 $\frac{1200 \text{ Williams}}{1200 \text{ Williams}}$ Desc Main 1200 Wilson Drive at Studio West Chester, PA 19380-4267

REGIONS BANK 1900 FIFTH AVENUE BIRMINGHAM, AL 35203-2670 RENT A CENTER 5501 HEADQUARTERS DRIVE PLANO, TX 75024-5845

Regions Bank 1300 5th Ave Birmingham, AL 35228

SPRINT PCS 6480 SPRINT PARKWAY OVERLAND PARK, KS 66251-6106 STATE OF INDIANA DRIVER SERVICES ATTN LEGAL DEPET BMV IGCN ROOM N404 100 NORTH SENATE AVE INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204-2273

STERLING FINANCE 1345 SOUTH PARK ST CARROLLTON, GA 30117-4433

SUNSET FINANCE 6678 BROAD STREET DOUGLASVILLE, GA 30134-1787

SUNSET FINANCE 726 BANKHEAD HIGHWAY CARROLLTON, GA 30117-1918 SUNTRUST BANK 919 EAST MAIN ST RICHMOND VA 23219-4625

SWISS COL/GRANDEPOINT 112 7TH AVE, MONROE, WI 53566

Secretary of State Bankruptcy Dept 2701 S Dirksen Prkwy Springfield, IL 62723-1000

(p) SPRINT NEXTEL CORRESPONDENCE ATTN BANKRUPTCY DEPT PO BOX 7949 OVERLAND PARK KS 66207-0949

State of Indiana Driver SErvice (BMV) Attn: Legal Dept BMV IGCN Room N404 100 North Senate Ave Indianapolis, In 46204-2273

Sterling FInance 1345 South Park Ave Carrollton GA, 30117-4433

Suntrust bank 519 E Main Street Richmond, VA 23219-2407

Swisscol/Grandepoint 112 7th Ave Monroe, WI 53566

(p) C O AMERICAN INFOSOURCE LP 4515 N SANTA FE AVE OKLAHOMA CITY OK 73118-7901

TANNER HOSPITAL 705 DIXIE ST CARROLLTON, GA 30117-3818

TCF NATIONAL BANK LEGAL PROCESSING DEPARTMENT OPS-SD-G 4101 WEST 38TH ST SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106-0741

TCF National Bank Legal Processing Department OPS-SD-G 4101 W 38th STreet Sioux Falls, SD 57106-0741

THE CITY OF GARY INDIANA ATTN N.A. WINFREY 401 BROADWAY SUITE 101A GARY, IN 46402-1236

THE CITY OF GARY INDIANA SANITATION DEPT ATTN URSULA 839 BROADWAY GARY, IN 46402-2417

TRUST RECOVERY SERVICES 541 OTIS BOWEN DRIVE, MUNSTER, IN 46321-4158

Tanner Hosiptal 705 Dixie Street Carrollton, GA 30117-3818

ULTRA FOODS (MERRILLVILLE) ATTN CAMERON SCADDEN 2244 45TH ST HIGHLAND, IN 46322-2629

(p) US BANK PO BOX 5229 CINCINNATI OH 45201-5229

US Bank POB 5529 Cincinnati, OH 45201 Attn: Cameron Cadden 2244 45th Street

4931 Document Provo, UT 84604-5816

Utlra Foods Merrillyille 15-28416 Doc 58 vivine 05/24/16 Entered 05/24/16 12:12:46 Desc Main Page 8 of 16

801 S ABE (2A) San Angelo, TX 76903-6735

WESTERN SHAMROCK CORPORATION 801 S ABE SAN ANGELO, TX 76903-6735

Highland, In 46322-2629

WILKES FINANCE CORPORATION 6160 FAIRBURN ROAD DOUGLASVILLE, GA 30134-1993 Wilkes Finance Corporation 61690 Fairburn Road Douglasville, GA 30134-1993

Karen R Goodman ESQ Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP 111 East Wacker Dr Suite 2800 Chicago, IL 60601-4277

Maurice Western P.O. Box 2067 Carrollton, GA 30112-0039

Patrick S Layng Office of the U.S. Trustee, Region 11 219 S Dearborn St Room 873 Chicago, IL 60604-2027

Ronald Stepney 540 W. Briar Place Suite B Chicago, IL 60657-4661

Traci Alexis Miller P.O. Box 2067 Carrollton, GA 30112-0039

The preferred mailing address (p) above has been substituted for the following entity/entities as so specified by said entity/entities in a Notice of Address filed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 342(f) and Fed.R.Bank.P. 2002 (g)(4).

ANN ARBOR CREDIT BUREAU 311 N MAIN ST. ANN ARBOR, MI 48104

Jefferson Capital Systems LLC Purchased From Fingerhut Po Box 7999 Saint Cloud Mn 56302-9617 Orig By: Fingerhut Freshstart

Sprint Corp. Attn Bankruptcy Dept PO Box 7949 Overland Park KS 66207-0949

T MOBILE BANKRUPTCY TEAM PO BOX 53410 BELLEVUE, WA 98015-3410

(d) T Mobile Bankruptcy Team POB 53410 Bellevue, WA 980158-3410

US BANK 800 NICOLLET MALL MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

(d) US Bank 800 Nicolett Mall Minneapolois, MN 55402

The following recipients may be/have been bypassed for notice due to an undeliverable (u) or duplicate (d) address.

(u) Carroll Finance

(d) ARS Inc POB 321472 Flowood, MS 39232-1472 (u) CARROLL EMC (CARROLLTON, GEORGIA)

(u)COM-ED (COMMONWEALTH EDISON)	(u) COMCAST	(u) COMCAST CABLE INC
(u) CREDIT CENTRAL	(d)Carroll EMC 155 North Highway 113 Carrollton, GA 30117-7501	(d)Comcast 650 Centerton Road Moorestown, NJ 08057-3985
(u) DISNEY MOVIE CLUB	(u) DRIVETIME CREDIT	(d)Drivetime POB 29018 Phoenix, AZ 85038-9018
(d)Drivetime Credit POB 53087 Phoenix, AZ 85072-3087	(u) FINGERHUT INDIANA UNIVERSITY STUDENT LOAN ADMIN WELLS FARGO BANK US BANK	(u) FIRST PREMIER BANK CARD TCFBANK
(u) FIRST PREMIER CREDIT CARD	(u) GARY INDIANA EMS SERVICES	(u) GARY INDIANA SANITATION DEPARTMENT
(d) Gary Indiana Sanitation Department Attn: Ursula 839 Broadway Gary, In 46402-2414	(d)Gary Indiana Services 200 East 5th Ave Gary, IN 46402-1309	(u) HIGHLIGHTS MAGAZINE
(u) HOLYCROSS HOSPITAL	(d) Highlights Magazine 803 Church Street Honesdale, PA 18431-1877	(d)HolyCross Hospital 2701 West 68th St Chicago, IL 60629-1882
(u) I st FRANKLIN FINANCIAL	(u) ILLINOIS Tollway Authority	(u) INDIANA AMERICAN WATER
(u) INSTALOAN	(d)Illinois Tollway Authority 2700 Ogden Avenue Downers Grove, IL 60515-1703	(d)Indiana American Water 555 East Countyline Road Greenwood, IN 46143-1064

(u) LAKE STATION INDIANA MUNICIPAL COURT (d) Lake County Indiana Superior (u) MARION COUNTY INDIANA Court 2293 Main Street Crown Point, IN 46307-1854 (d) Marion County Indiana (u) NIPSCO (d)Online Collections 200 E Washington Street POB 1489 Suite W122 Winterville, NC 28590-1489 Indianapolis, IN 46204-3335 (u) PEOPLES ENERGY (u) PEOPLES GAS (u) PATRICIA A LLOYD, M.D. (d) Patricia A. LLoyd, M.D. (u) PROPERTY LIQUIDATORS/TIM LOVELESS (d) Peoples Energy 340 Blvd NE Attn: Customer Service 200 E. Randolph Atlanta, GA 30312-1285 Chicago, Il 60601-6302 (u) REGIONS BANK (u) RENT A CENTER (d) Rent A Center 5501 Headquarters Drive Plano, TX 75024-5845 (u) SPRINT (u) SPRINT PCS (u) STATE OF INDIANA DRIVER SERVICES (u) STERLING FINANCE (u) SUNSET FINANCE (u) SUNTRUST BANK (d) Sunset Finance (d) Sunset Finance (d) Sprint PCS 6480 Sprint Parkway 6678 Broad Street 726 Bankhead Highway Overland Park, KS 66251-6106 Carrollton, GA 30117-1918 Douglasville, GA 30134-1787

(u) TANNER HOSPITAL

(u) T Mobile

(u) TCF NATIONAL BANK

(d) THE CITY OF HOBART INDIANA 414 MAIN STREET HOBART IN 46342-4444 (u) TMOBILE NIPS CO (d)Trust Recovery Services 541 Otis Bowen Drive Munster, IN 46321-4158

(u) ULTRA FOODS (MERRILL VILLE)

(u)UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX
WESTWOOD COLLEGE
SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIV

SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIVERSITY
PAYDAY LOAN STORE OF ILLINOIS
PAYDAY LOAN STORE OF INDIANA

(u) US BANK

(u) WEST GEORGIA AMBULANCE COMPANY TANNER HOSPITAL OF CARROLLTON GEORGIA EXPRESS REALTY OF VILLA RICA GEORGIA INTERTECH PROBATION CITY OF CARROLLTON, GEORGIA (u) WESTERN SHAMROCK CORPORATION

(u) WILKES FINANCE CORPORATION

(d) Western Shamrock Corp 801 S ABE (2A) San Angelo, TX 76903-6735 End of Label Matrix
Mailable recipients 130
Bypassed recipients 76
Total 206

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

In re: Chapter 7

Traci Alexis Miller & Maurice Western,

Bankruptcy No. 15-28416

Honorable Jacqueline P. Cox

Debtors.

FIRST AND FINAL APPLICATION OF FACTORLAW FOR COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES

William J. Factor and The Law Office of William J. Factor, Ltd. (collectively, "FactorLaw"), special counsel for Karen R Goodman, not individually but as the chapter 7 trustee (the "Trustee") of the bankruptcy estate (the "Estate") of Traci Alexis Miller and Maurice Western ("Traci" and "Maurice" or, collectively, the "Debtors"), hereby submits its first and final application for compensation and reimbursement of expenses (the "Application") pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 330, 331 and 507(a)(1). FactorLaw seeks allowance of compensation in the amount of \$14,783.13 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$98.44 incurred by FactorLaw during the period of October 14, 2015, through and including May 25, 2016 (the "Application Period"). In support of its Application, FactorLaw states as follows:

I. JURISDICTION

This Court has jurisdiction over this motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334, and Local Rule 40.3.1(a) of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Venue of the above-captioned case (the "*Case*") and of this motion is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409. This matter is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. §§ 157(b)(1) and (b)(2)(A).

II. BACKGROUND

On August 19, 2015, the Debtors filed a petition for relief under chapter 7 of title 11, United States Code (11 U.S.C. § 101 et seq., the "Bankruptcy Code"), thereby commencing this Case. The Trustee is the duly appointed and qualified trustee.

On January 5, 2016, this Court entered an order authorizing the Trustee to retain FactorLaw as her special counsel to represent her in a state court proceeding with regard to the proceeds of an annuity in which Traci claimed an interest (the "Annuity Litigation"). See Dkt. 37. The retention order provided that FactorLaw would be receive a contingency fee of 33.3% of the gross recovery in connection with the Annuity Litigation, as well as reimbursement of any out of pocket expenses.

As of result of FactorLaw's efforts, the Trustee reached a settlement of the Annuity Litigation pursuant to which the Estate would receive \$44,393.79 (or 45% of the value of the annuity). The settlement was approved by this Court on April 21, 2016. See Dkt. 57.

III. BASIS FOR THE REQUESTED RELIEF

A. FactorLaw's fees under the contingency arrangement should be approved.

Under Section 330(a)(1)(A), the Court may award a professional person "reasonable compensation for actual, necessary services rendered[.]" 11 U.S.C. § 330(a)(1)(A). Section 330(a) further provides:

In determining the amount of reasonable compensation to be awarded, the court shall consider the nature, the extent, and the value of such services, taking into account all relevant factors, including—(A) the time spent on such services; (B) the rates charged for such services; (C) whether the services were necessary to the administration of, or beneficial at the time at which the service was rendered toward the completion of, a case under [the Bankruptcy Code]; (D) whether the services were

¹ For further details on the Annuity Litigation and the settlement see the motion to approve the settlement. Dkt. No. 55.

performed within a reasonable amount of time commensurate with the complexity, importance, and nature of the problem, issue, or task addressed; and (E) whether the compensation is reasonable, based on the customary compensation charged by comparably skilled practitioners in cases other than cases under this title.

Id. § 330(a)(3).

Section 327(a) provides that the trustee may, subject to court approval, employ attorneys that do not have any interest adverse to the Estate, and that are disinterested persons, as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(14). Next, Section 327(e) provides that a trustee may hire counsel for a specific purpose if it is in the best interest of the estate and the attorney does not have an interest adverse to the estate with respect to the matter for which employment is sought. Finally, Section 328 provides that a trustee "may employ or authorize the employment of a professional person ... on any reasonable terms and conditions of employment, including ... on a contingent fee basis." 11 U.S.C. § 328(a).

The contingency fee of 33.3% of the gross recovery in the Annuity Litigation amounts to \$14,783.13. This fee is reasonable for the services provided by FactorLaw, the litigation risks assumed by FactorLaw, and results obtained by FactorLaw. FactorLaw was able to settle the Annuity Litigation, which had been dragging on for over ten years, for an amount that exceeds the total amount of claims filed against the Estate. Even after deducting FactorLaw's contingency fee, the Estate will recover more than the total dollar value (\$20,441.26) of claims filed against the Estate.

FactorLaw believes the Estate would have incurred at least the amount of its contingency fee, and likely much more, had the Estate retained counsel on an hourly basis. FactorLaw professionals spent 70.9 hours representing the Trustee in connection with the Annuity Litigation and related matters. Dividing its contingency fee by the hours spent, FactorLaw's hourly rate amounts to \$208.51 per hour, less than the lowest

hourly rate (\$250) charged by FactorLaw professionals that worked on this case.

FactorLaw further believes that Trustee would not have received as favorable settlement had she not been represented by contingency counsel, as the threat of continued aggressive litigation at substantial expense to the Trustee's opponent was a significant factor in the settlement of the Annuity Litigation.

Moreover, in addition to handling the Annuity Litigation, FactorLaw formulated and filed an objection to Traci's claim of exemption to the annuity. While objecting to Traci's exemption was not explicitly required by the terms of FactorLaw's engagement, if Traci was successful on her claim of exemption, the Estate would have no assets to distribute to creditors.

In conclusion, the work performed by FactorLaw professionals benefited the estate, and the contingency fee of \$14,783.13 is reasonable under the circumstances.

B. FactorLaw should be reimbursed out of pocket expenses.

FactorLaw also incurred \$49.22 in postage for serving the motion to approve settlement, and estimates that the cost of serving this Application will be the same amount, for a total of \$98.44 in expenses.

With respect to reimbursing expenses, the Court may award a professional person "reimbursement for actual, necessary expenses." 11 U.S.C. § 330(a)(1)(B). "An expense is necessary if it was incurred because it was required to accomplish the proper representation of the client." *In re Spanjer Bros., Inc.*, 191 B.R. at 749.

The postage expenses detailed above were the actual and necessary expenses incurred on behalf of the Estate, and such expenses were required to accomplish the proper representation of the Trustee and the Estate.

NOTICE

Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002, this Application is served on all creditors as scheduled by the Debtors, any parties requesting notice via CM/ECF, the U.S. Trustee, and the Debtors (who are pro se).

WHEREFORE, FactorLaw respectfully requests that this Court enter an Order:

- A. Allowing FactorLaw compensation for actual, necessary legal services in the amount of \$14,783.13 and expenses in the amount of \$98.44;
- B. Authorizing the Trustee to pay FactorLaw compensation in the amount of **14,783.13** and expenses in the amount of **\$98.44**; and
- C. Granting such other relief as the Court deems just and equitable.

Dated: May 24, 2016 THE LAW OFFICES OF WILLIAM J. FACTOR, LTD.

By: <u>/s/ Z. James Liu</u>
One of its Attorneys

William J. Factor (6205675) Sara E. Lorber (6229740) Z. James Liu (6313367) FACTORLAW 105 W. Madison, Suite 1500

Chicago, IL 60602 Tel: (312) 373-7227

Fax: (847) 574-8233